

Annual Report Summary

June 8, 2011



Management and Monitoring of the Preserve follows the Guidelines and Requirements of the Otag Ranch Resource Management Plans and the MSCP



Salt Creek and San Ysidro Preserves



Conveyed Otag Ranch Preserve Land

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FIGURE 2

Salt Creek and San Ysidro Preserve Locations

Previously Conveyed Preserve Lands
Approximately 1,300 acres

Salt Creek Parcel

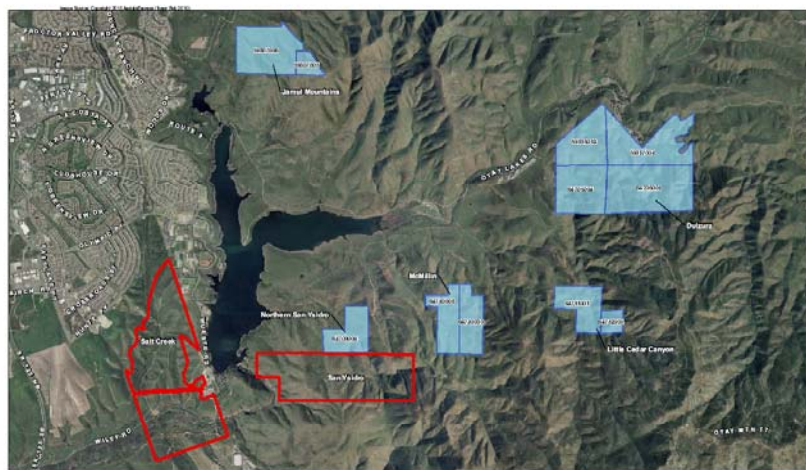
San Ysidro Parcel



Salt Creek Parcel



San Ysidro Parcel



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 Previously Conveyed Land
 (Salt Creek & San Ysidro Parcels)
 New Land Conveyed

FIGURE 3
Location of Conveyed Otay Ranch Preserve Land on Aerial Map

Previous Baseline Surveys

Baseline Surveys for Salt Creek and San Ysidro were conducted by Dudek in 2009. The surveys included:

- Vegetation Mapping
- Avian Point Counts
- Focused Surveys for CAGN and Quino Checkerspot
- Rare Plants
- Mapping Exotics

Preserve Steward/Biologist Tasks

- RECON was hired by the City and County in Fall 2009.
- Oversee and coordinate Otay Ranch preserve management, monitoring, and reporting with the Wildlife Agencies, the POM, Otay Ranch land owners who may convey lands within the Preserve, regional monitoring entities, interested public groups, and the general public.
- Provide science-based technical recommendations to POM staff and any contractors retained to conduct specific management tasks, monitoring, data collection and analysis, and adaptive management programs.

Workplan 2009-10 Identified the Following Tasks to be Performed

- Exotics Control
- Assessment of Access-Trespass Issues
- Trash Removal
- Establish Photo Points for Detecting Long-term Changes
- General Avian Point Count Surveys
- Focused Surveys Rare Plants, CAGN and Cactus Wren
- QCB Habitat Threats Assessment

Prioritizing Weed Control Efforts:

Priority for treating invasive species are based on several criteria:

- California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) ratings
- Feasibility of successful control
- Early Detection Rapid Response-Control small populations when first detected (Bay Area Early Detection Network 2010)
- Threat to sensitive species.

All four of these factors are taken into consideration when determining treatment priority for invasive species.

Prioritizing Weed Control Efforts

Species Observed and Cal-Ipc Rating

- Tamarisk-**High**
- Giant Reed-**High**
- Pampas Grass-**High**
- Sweet Fennel-**High**
- Blue Gum-**Moderate**
- Tree Tobacco-**Moderate**
- Mexican Fan Palm-**Moderate**
- Stinkwort-**Moderate**
- Peruvian Pepper-**Limited**

Salt Creek-Control Priority

High: stinkwort

Medium: pampas grass, tree tobacco

Low: tamarisk, giant reed, wild fennel, Peruvian pepper tree, blue gum, Mexican fan palm

San Ysidro

High: stinkwort

Medium: tamarisk, pampas grass

RECON Crews Sprayed Stinkwort and then Biologists Hand Pulled Remaining Plants During Regular Site Visits



Access Issues

Salt Creek

- Multiple Uncontrolled Access Points (South and West sides of Otay Valley)
- Fence Repair
- Gate Installation
- Additional Signage

San Ysidro

- Primary Access Controlled by Locked Gate
- Access issues are mostly related to the on-going Border Patrol Mission

Identifying Fence Repair Areas and Locations for Additional Signage



Existing Sign at Salt Creek



Southern Boundary Fence at Salt Creek



Repeat Photographs For
Detecting Long-term
Changes in Vegetation

Photo Points Monitoring
Locations-Salt Creek



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FIGURE 13

FY 2009-2010 Photographic Monitoring Points, San Ysidro

Photo Point Locations San Ysidro

Spring and Late Season Repeat Photos



March 2010 at Salt Creek



August 2010 same location

Spring and Late Season Repeat Photos



April 2010 at San Ysidro



September 2010 same location

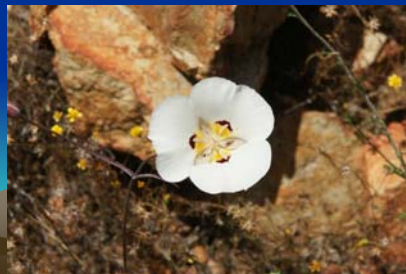
Rare Plant Surveys



Snake Cholla at Salt Creek
MSCP NE and CNPS 1B.1



Variegated Dudleya at Salt Creek
MSCP NE and CNPS 1B.1



Dunn's Mariposa Lily at San Ysidro
MSCP NE and CNPS 1B.2

Rare Plant Surveys



Otay Mountain Lotus at San Ysidro
CNPS 1B.1



Small-Flowered Morning Glory San Ysidro-CNPS 4.2



Jennifer's Monardella at San Ysidro
CNPS 1B.2

Rare Plant Surveys



Chaparral Rein-Orchid at San Ysidro
CNPS 4.2



Gander's Pitcher Sage MSCP NE
at San Ysidro-CNPS 1.B.3

Rare Plant S

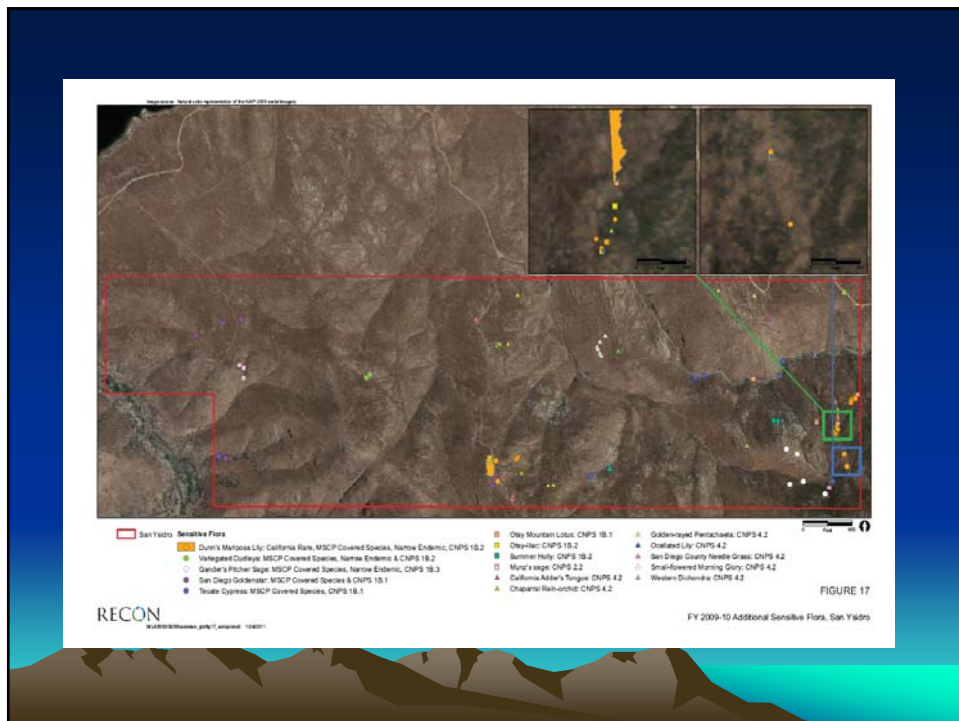
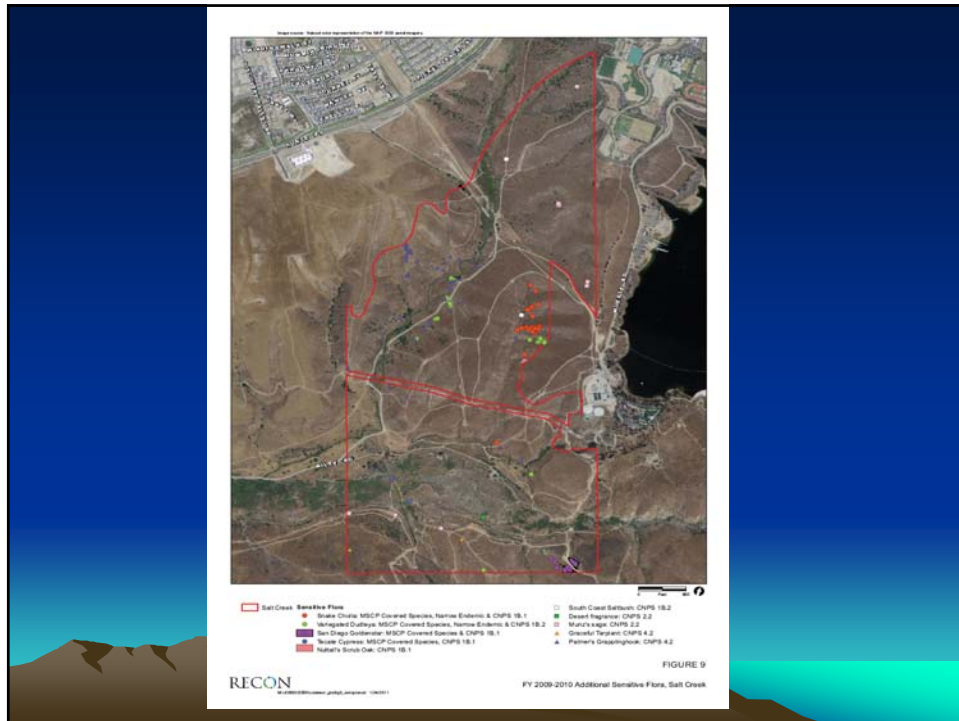


Otay Lilac at San Ysidro
CNPS 1B.2

San Diego Goldenstar at Salt Creek
MSCP and CNPS 1B.1



Orcutt's Brodiaea
at San Ysidro
MSCP NE CNPS 1B.1



Faunal Surveys



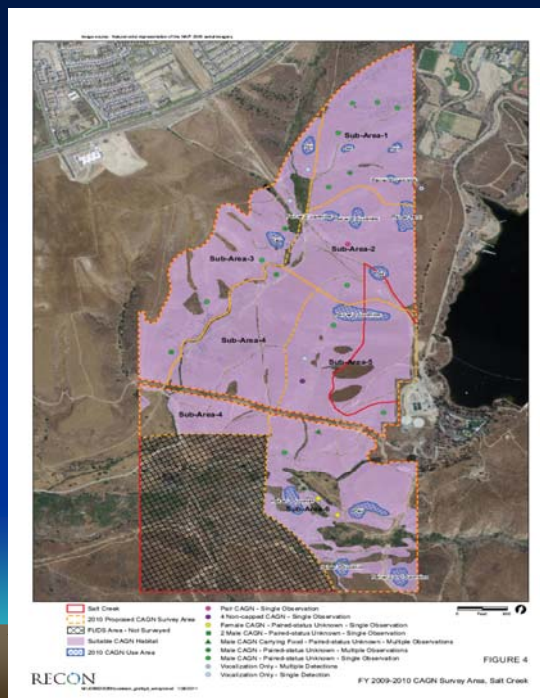
Coastal California Gnatcatcher
FT, MSCP, CSC

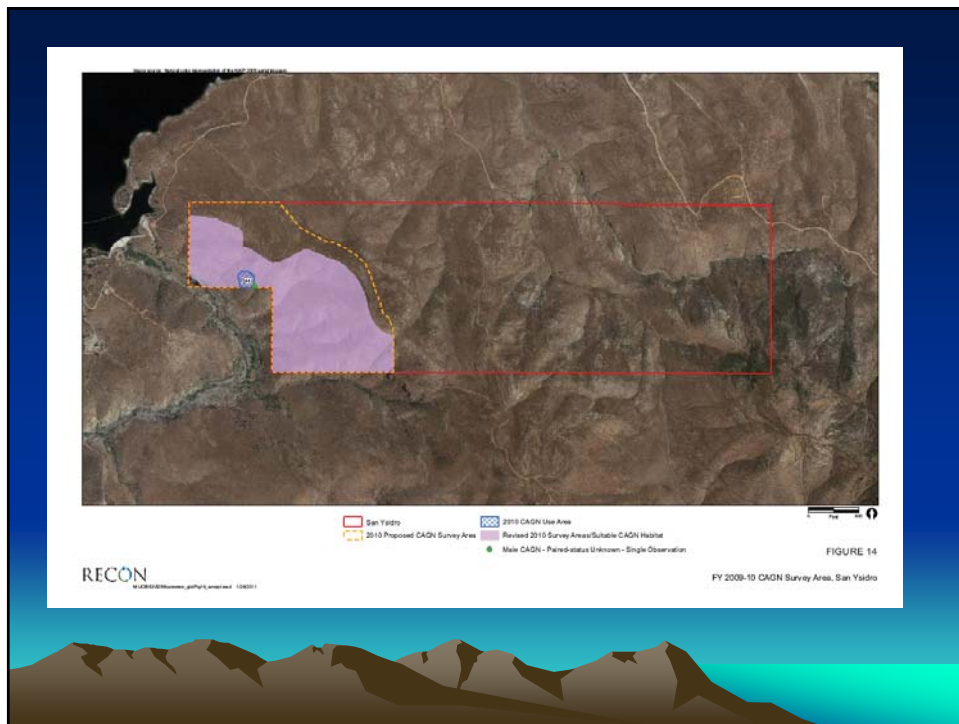


QCB Habitat Threats Assessment



Coastal Cactus Wren Nest
MSCP, CSC







QCB Habitat Threats Assessment



QCB Observed San Ysidro
In 2009



Plantago Foodplant Area Downslope



Incidental Observations



Two-striped Garter Snake
San Ysidro
CDFG CSC



Coastal Rosy Boa at San Ysidro
FSC



Roadrunner at Salt Creek

Incidental Observations



Bullock's Oriole

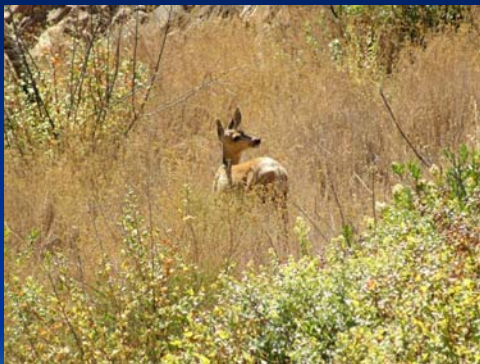


Lark Sparrow-San Ysidro



Red Tailed Hawk
at San Ysidro

Incidental Observations



Western Mule Deer at San Ysidro
MSCP



California Horned Lark at Salt Creek
CDFG CSC



Killdeer Salt Creek

All 3 Species of Rattlesnake at San Ysidro



Red Diamond Rattlesnake
CDFG CSC



Southern Pacific Rattlesnake



Speckled Rattlesnake

Newly Conveyed Lands



Newly Conveyed Lands

Baseline Surveys are being conducted on approximately 1,500 acres in Spring 2011

Reprioritized tasks so that new lands can be surveyed.

Need to know what we have before we can manage it effectively.

Surveys Include: vegetation mapping, general floral and faunal surveys and reporting

Data will be provided to **SanBIOS**

SanBIOS is used to organize a catalog of species observations that have been recorded by professional biologists from the County of San Diego as well as from various other agencies and private firms.

Native Grasslands



Native Grasses McMillin Parcels



San Diego Needlegrass
CNPS 4.2

Grassland Species



Paintbrush



Comstock's Fritillary



Checker Mallow

Post-fire Coastal Sage Scrub



Recovering CSS McMillin Parcels



Coastal California Gnatcatcher
Recolonizing CSS

Recovering CSS



Post-fire Coast Barrel Cactus
MSCP

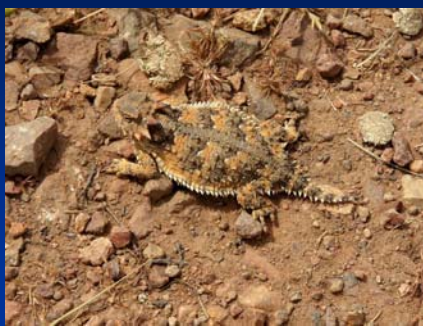


Native Pollinators are Abundant
in the Preserve

Recovering CSS



Munz's sage
CNPS 2.2



Coast Horned Lizard
MSCP and
CDFG Species of Special Concern

Open Clay Soil Areas Support Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Food Plants-Dot-Seed Plantain



Dot-seed Plantain Patch
McMillin Parcels



Quino Checkerspot Butterfly
MSCP and FE

Riparian Areas



Seasonal Stream Dulzura Parcels



California treefrog

Riparian Areas



Two-striped Garter Snake
Dulzura parcel
CDFG Species of Special Concern



Mourning Cloak
Butterfly
caterpillars



Invertebrates
Water Striders

Chaparral and Tecate Cypress Woodland



Tecate Cypress Cones



Post-fire Cones

Chaparral and Tecate Cypress Woodland



Tecate Cypress Recovery



Some Cypress Burned
in 2003 and again 2007

Chaparral and Tecate Cypress Woodland



Chaparral Pea



Southern Mtn.
Misery



Gander's Pitcher
Sage
CNPS 1.B.3

Baseline Survey Reports will be Prepared for Each Parcel Set

- Vegetation maps of each parcel
- Sensitive plant and animal species locations
- Discussion of access issues and site visit frequency
- Recommendations for focused surveys for selected sensitive species (spring 2011-12)

Thank You!



Otay Mountain
Rainbow